

July's Beautification Award Winner

Thomas and Allison Godwin at 136 Arrowhead Dr.

Thomas and Allison Godwin have called 136 Arrowhead Dr. their home since 2014, when they moved to West Lafayette for work. Coming from the warmer climate of South Carolina, Allison stated that "While the winters are cold, I really enjoy seeing the plants come to life each spring and summer. We are amazed by the transformation each year of the yard in such a short time." Today, one would see the snowball hydrangeas, sedum, and other perennials like Russian Sage and coneflowers dot the landscape with color and texture.

Allison gave a description of the existing landscape when the Godwin's arrived in West Lafayette, recalling that the previous owners had planted many shrubs and larger plantings. They placed great bones in their garden, though many of the planting material had early and mid-spring flowering plants, lacking interest in the later months. "We have gradually added more color to the yard by planting coneflowers, black-eyed susans, lavender, flowering allium, and coral bells. We have also transplanted some of the plants around the yard based on their sun needs. We found a huge peony in the back in the shade that never bloomed. It is now very happy in full sun in the front yard."

When asked if the Godwin's had any advice for those beginning to garden, she said "There are a lot of great gardening centers around the Lafayette and West Lafayette areas with very knowledgeable staff. I like to go and browse what they have in stock and ask a lot of questions. I've always found their advice on where to plant and how to maintain plants to be very helpful, especially for someone new to this growing zone. When it comes to gardening, I think the best advice is to have fun and try new things. Sometimes those things don't work out, but most often they do and can provide a great landscape and lasting memories." Thank you, Thomas and Allison, for keeping West Lafayette beautiful!

